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APPLICANT(s): Niederhaeusern et al.

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TITLE: HOUSEKEEPING STATION

ATTORNEY

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Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1)/(e)(1))**

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) before the mailing date of any of a final action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from the foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The above-identified patent application has a counter part foreign patent application International patent application No. PCT/US02/06377. Applicant's attorney encloses a copy of the Search Report issued for the counter part foreign application. The Search Report cites several references, listed below, which

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were provided with the Search Report, and are being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

US 5,896,145

US 5,914,734

US 6,318,837

Copies of these references are enclosed together with a Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's use.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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8/26/02
Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope address to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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